

CONTENT AREA

Dental Insurance - Employers Dental Services (EDS) – Benefit Change

ISSUE/QUESTION

Employers Dental Services (EDS) is changing its orthodontic benefits effective January 1, 2004. What are the changes?

ANSWER

Presently EDS offers a set dollar amount for its orthodontic benefit. Beginning January 1, 2004, the orthodontic benefit will be a 25% discount on the standard charge of all orthodontic services provided by EDS orthodontists.

Additional changes include:

- Eliminating the 24-month treatment limitation
- Covering procedures previously excluded (e.g., preorthodontic treatment visits)
- Covering products previously excluded (e.g., lingual braces, invisible braces and Invisalign).

The new benefit structure applies only to orthodontic treatment plans begun on or after January 1, 2004. The set dollar amount benefit will apply to all treatment plans in process on January 1, 2004.

The most recent edition of the EDS booklets include a brightly-colored, one-page insert that explains the changes and provides the EDS numbers to call for more information. You should have received these booklets in the past few weeks.

Saguaro Program members who are contemplating orthodontic work are encouraged to compare the two benefits to determine if they should begin their treatment plan before January 1, 2004 or wait until after January 1, 2004.

EDS participants may call the following numbers to discuss their particular situation and the effect of the benefit change on their situation:

(602) 248-8912 Phoenix
(520) 696-4343 Tucson
1-800-722-9772 Toll Free

AUTHORITY

Arizona Department of Administration

ISSUED

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